AVON
PUBLICATION
ANC
TEN MEN AND ONE GIRL--AGAINST
ONE HUNDRED CRUEL SAVAGES!
10¢
LAST OF THE
COMANCHES

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COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

LAST OF THE COMANCHES

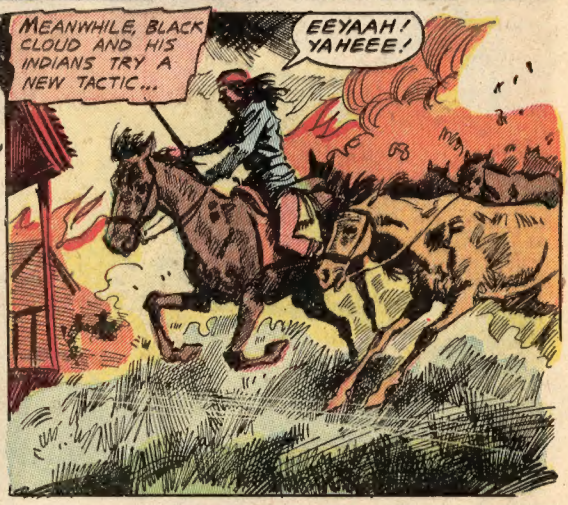
starring

BRODERICK CRAWFORD · BARBARA HALE

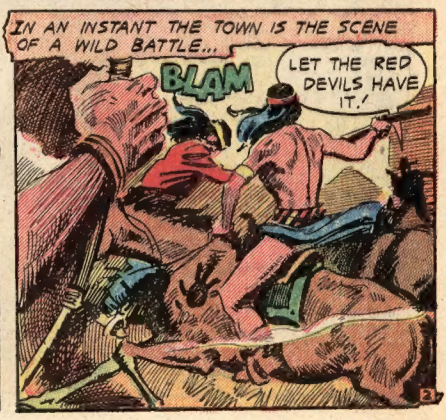
JOHNNY STEWART · LLOYD BRIDGES with MICKEY SHAUGHNESSY

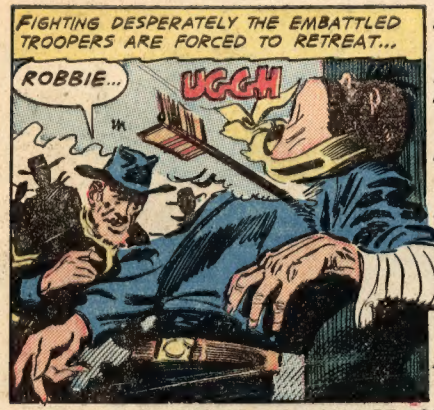
Written for the screen by KENNETH GAMET
Produced by BUDDY ADLER · Directed by ANDRE DeTOTH

THE INDIAN TRIBES OF THE SOUTHWEST WERE AT PEACE--EXCEPT FOR THE NOTORIOUS RENEGADE COMANCHE CHIEFTAIN, **BLACK CLOUD**, AND HIS SAVAGE FOLLOWERS. FOR THREE YEARS HIS BLOODY RAIDS AND MASSACRES THREATENED THE SECURITY OF THE NEW PEACE...

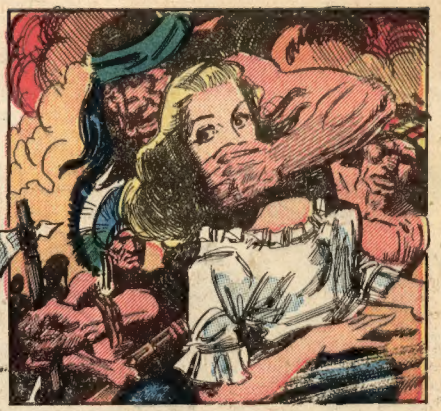


MINUTES LATER, THE TROOPERS GUARDING THE ENTRANCE TO THE TOWN ARE STARTLED BY THE THUNDER OF HOOVES AND A CLOUD OF DUST...

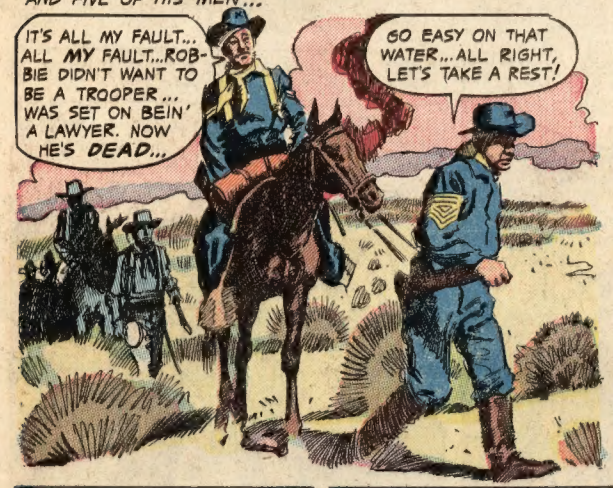


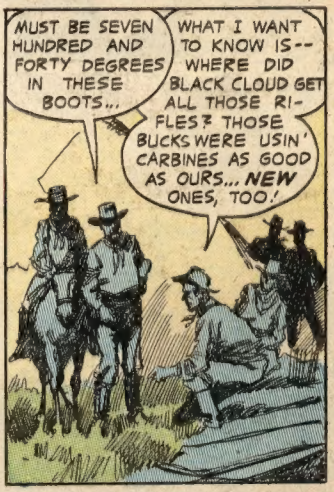


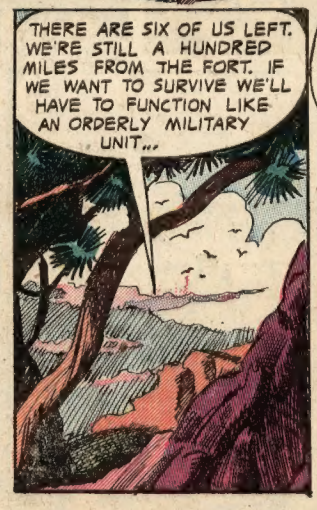
SOON THE TOWN IS IN FLAMES AND THE INHABITANTS ARE BEING MASSACRED BY THE ATTACKING SAVAGES...



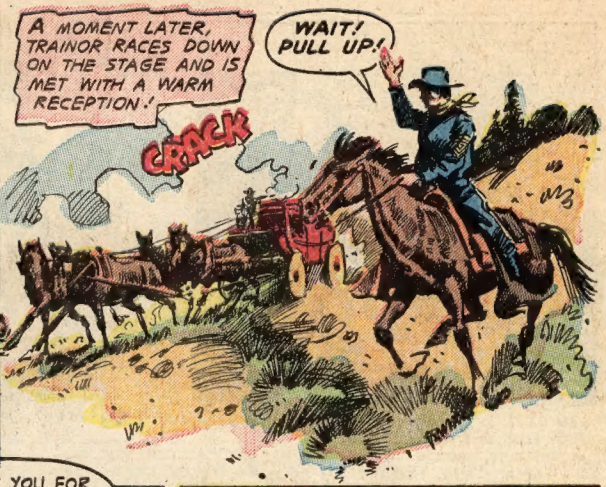
THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF THE MASSACRE ARE SGT. TRAINOR AND FIVE OF HIS MEN...







MOVING ON TOWARD THE FORT, THE TINY GROUP KEEPS GOING UNTIL...
IT'S A STAGECOACH! JIM, GIVE ME YOUR HORSE. THAT COACH IS GOIN' TO BE OUR WAY OF GETTIN' TO FORT MACKLIN!
SURE...


A MOMENT LATER, TRAINOR RACES DOWN ON THE STAGE AND IS MET WITH A WARM RECEPTION!
WAIT! PULL UP!
CRACK

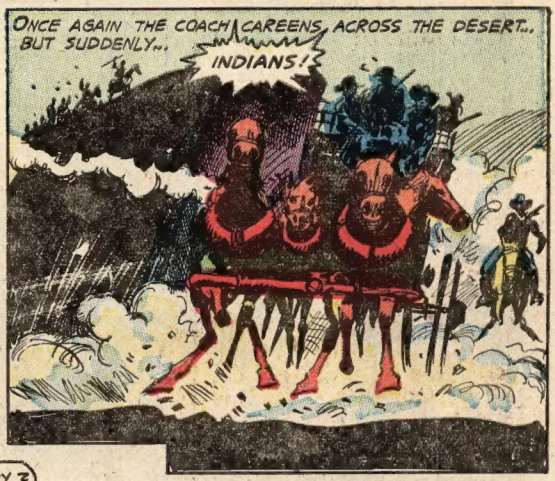
ALMOST SHOT YOU FOR A HIGHWAYMAN, SERGEANT! ROMANY O'RATTIGAN'S MY HANDLE. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
PLENTY!

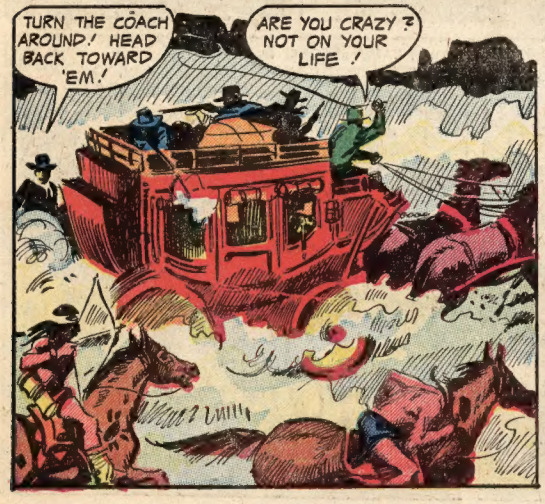
WHEN THE PASSENGERS STEP OUT, MATT TRAINOR GETS A SURPRISE...
PROPHET SATTERLEE!
YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER?
SURE, I USED TO BE SCOUT AND GUIDE FOR SGT. TRAINOR'S OLD TROOP...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON THE STAGE?
WENT BACK TO KANSAS CITY FOR A FLING! NOW I'M HEADED HOME TO DRY BUTTES...

THERE ISN'T ANY MORE DRY BUTTES, PROPHET. BLACK CLOUD'S ON THE WARPATH... BURNED OUT THE TOWN LAST NIGHT. THAT'S WHY I STOPPED YOUR COACH.
LUCKY FOR US. BUT WITH THE CAVALRY TROOP RIDIN' WITH US WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
WHA--AT?

WHAT PROTECTION THE CAVALRY CAN GIVE IS VERY LITTLE. WE WERE AT DRY BUTTES LAST NIGHT. THIS IS ALL THAT ARE LEFT...

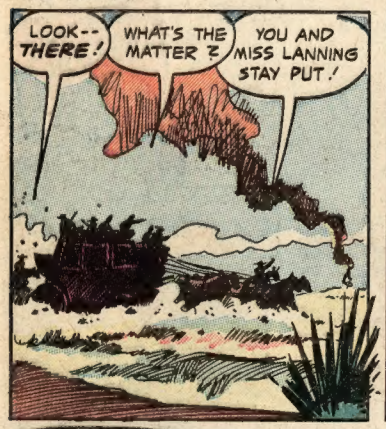




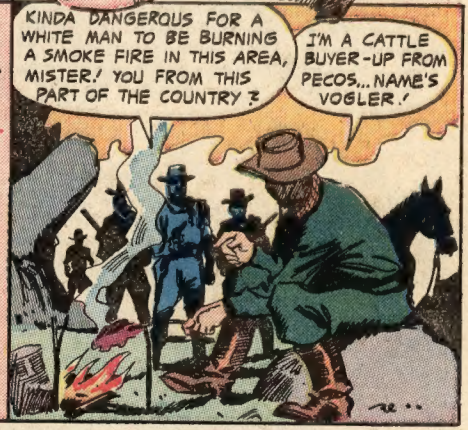
GRABBING THE BRIDLE, TRAINOR FORCES THE TEAM AROUND, AND THE RACING COACH CHARGES THE INDIAN ATTACKERS!

WHEN THE GROUP STOPS FOR A REST THEY MAKE AN ALARMING DISCOVERY!

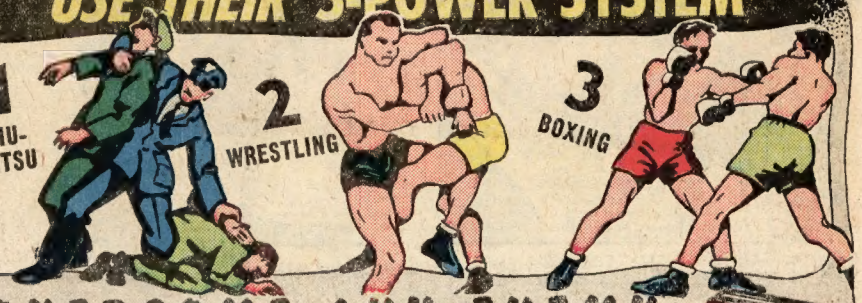
ONCE AGAIN THE COACH RESUMES ITS HAZARDOUS TRIP TO THE FORT. SOME TIME LATER...



DISMOUNTING, TRAINOR AND HIS TROOPERS ENCIRCLE THE SPIRAL OF SMOKE, AND...



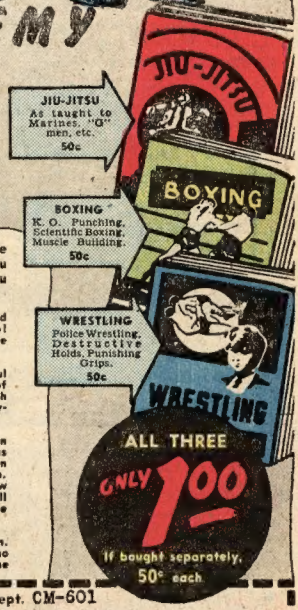
When You Have To Defend Yourself Do What The EXPERTS Do! USE THEIR 3-POWER SYSTEM



OVERCOME ANY ENEMY

No matter how big he is or how small you are!

Now! Discover from experts this quick way to defend yourself — anywhere — anytime!



HERE'S every science of self-defense and lethal attack, wrapped up into one triple-action package. This new fast-moving 3-power system will make you tough to conquer, or it doesn't cost you a cent. You don't need muscles! You don't have to be big! You just have to know how!

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Like Getting Personal Instruction

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In every dynamite-packed page, experts teach you through pictures and stories. How you can K.O. your enemy with one clean scientific wallop! How to master him with punishing, bruising, wrestling holds! How to use his strength to destroy himself through deadly Jiu-Jitsu.

Never again cringe or shy away from a bully. Imagine the wonderful thrill of confidence to know that nobody can push you around. Think of the respect others will have for you, the safety they'll feel being with you, when they find out what a rough and ready scrapping, deadly-efficient he-man you can be.

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An Amazing NEW HEALTH SUPPORTER BELT

For men in their 30's, 40's, 50's who want to

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POSTURE BAD? Got a 'Bay Window'?

DO YOU ENVY MEN who can 'KEEP ON THEIR FEET'?

and then he got a "CHEVALIER" . . .

YOU NEED A "CHEVALIER"!

DOES a bulging "bay window" make you look and feel years older than you really are? Then here, at last, is the answer to your problem! "Chevalier", the wonderful new adjustable health supporter belt is scientifically constructed to help you look and feel years younger!

The CHEVALIER

LIFTS AND FLATTENS YOUR BULGING "BAY WINDOW"

Why go on day after day with an "old-man's" mid-section bulge . . . or with a tired back that needs posture support? Just see how "Chevalier" brings you vital control where you need it most! "Chevalier" has a built-in strap. You adjust the belt the way you want. Presto! Your "bay-window" bulge is lifted in . . . flattened out—yet you feel wonderfully comfortable!

FRONT ADJUSTMENT
Works quick as a flash! Simply adjust the strap and presto! The belt is perfectly adjusted to you! greatest comfort!

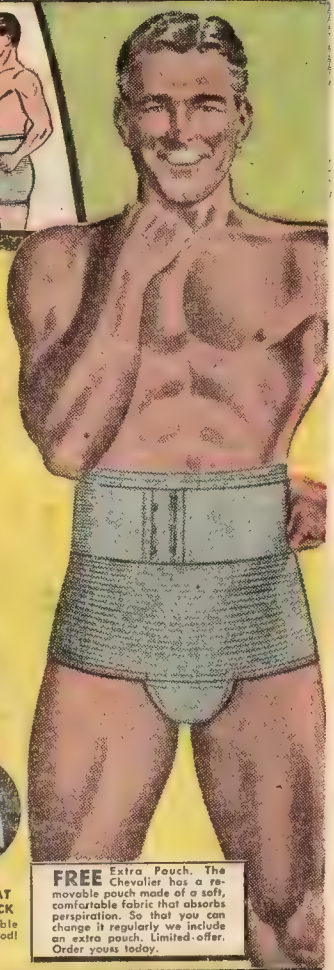
TWO-WAY S-T-R-E-T-C-H WONDER CLOTH
Firmly holds in your flabby abdomen; yet it s-t-r-e-t-c-h e-s as you breathe, bend, stoop, after meals, etc.

DETACHABLE POUCH
Air-cooled! Scientifically designed and made to give wonderful support and protection!

Rear View
FITS SNUG AT SMALL of BACK
Firm, comfortable support. Feels good!

Healthful, Enjoyable Abdominal Control

It's great! You can wear "Chevalier" all day long. Will not bind or make you feel constricted. That's because the two-way s-t-r-e-t-c-h cloth plus the front adjustment bring you *personalized* fit. The "Chevalier" is designed according to scientific facts of healthful posture control. It's made by experts to give you the comfort and healthful "lift" you want. Just see all the wonderful features below. And remember—you can get the "Chevalier" on FREE TRIAL. Mail the coupon *right now!*



FREE Extra Pouch. The Chevalier has a removable pouch made of a soft, comfortable fabric that absorbs perspiration. So that you can change it regularly we include an extra pouch. Limited offer. Order yours today.

FREE TRIAL OFFER

1. You *risk nothing!* Just mail coupon—be sure to give name and address, also waist measure, etc. — and mail TODAY!

2. Try on the "Chevalier". Adjust belt the way you want. See how your bulging "bay window" looks streamlined . . . how comfortable you feel. How good it is!

3. Wear the "Chevalier" for 10 whole days if you want to! Wear it to work, evenings, while bowling, etc. The "Chevalier" must help you look and feel "like a million" or you can send it back! See offer in coupon!

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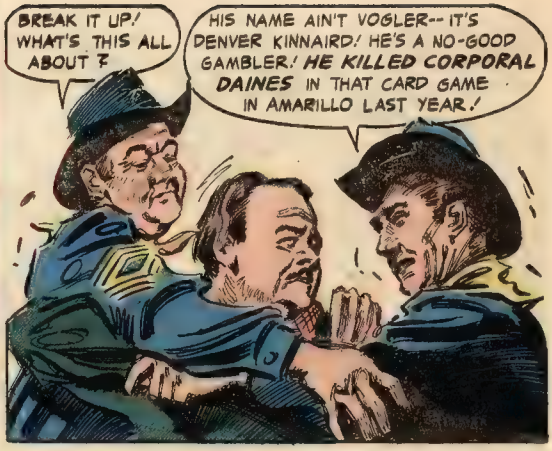
Send me for 10 days' FREE TRIAL a CHEVALIER HEALTH-SUPPORTER BELT. I will pay postman $3.98 (plus postage) with the understanding that includes my FREE pouch. In 10 days, I will either return CHEVALIER to you and you will return my money, or otherwise my payment will be a full and final purchase price.

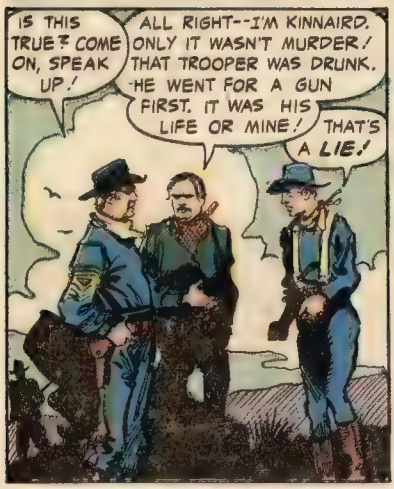
My waist measure is _____
(Send string the size of your waist if no tape measure is handy)

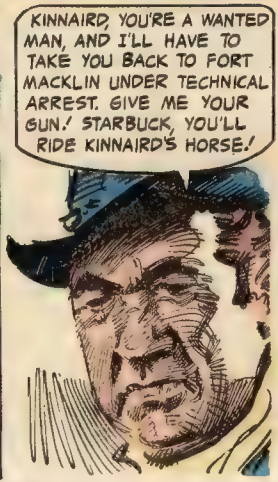
Name _____
Address _____
City and Zone _____ State _____

☐ *Save 65c postage. We pay postage if you enclose payment now. Same Free Trial and refund privilege.*

AS THEY TURN TO THEIR HORSES...
I KNEW I'D SEEN YOU BEFORE, YOU MURDERIN' TINHORN..!
UHHH! WHY, YOU--!

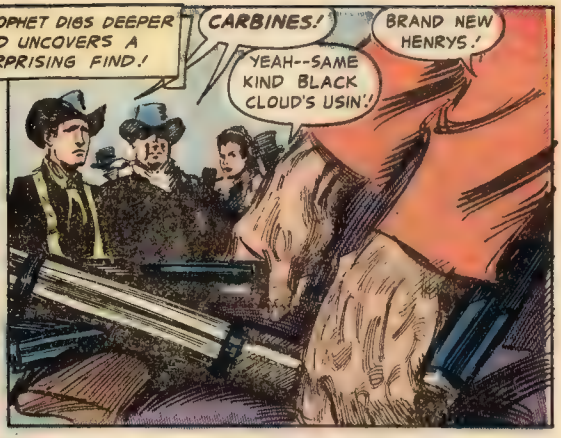

BREAK IT UP! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
HIS NAME AIN'T VOGLER-- IT'S DENVER KINNAIRD! HE'S A NO-GOOD GAMBLER! HE KILLED CORPORAL DAINES IN THAT CARD GAME IN AMARILLO LAST YEAR!


IS THIS TRUE? COME ON, SPEAK UP!
ALL RIGHT--I'M KINNAIRD. ONLY IT WASN'T MURDER! THAT TROOPER WAS DRUNK. HE WENT FOR A GUN FIRST. IT WAS HIS LIFE OR MINE!
THAT'S A LIE!

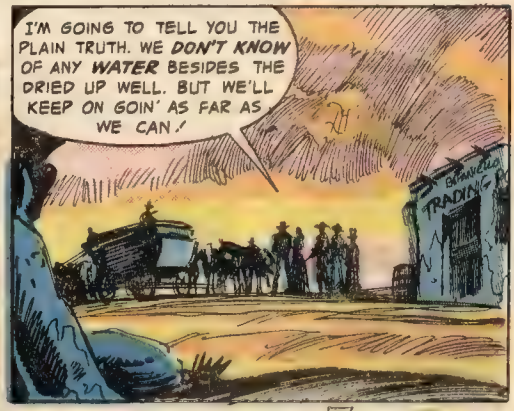

KINNAIRD, YOU'RE A WANTED MAN, AND I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOU BACK TO FORT MACKLIN UNDER TECHNICAL ARREST. GIVE ME YOUR GUN! STARBUCK, YOU'LL RIDE KINNAIRD'S HORSE!

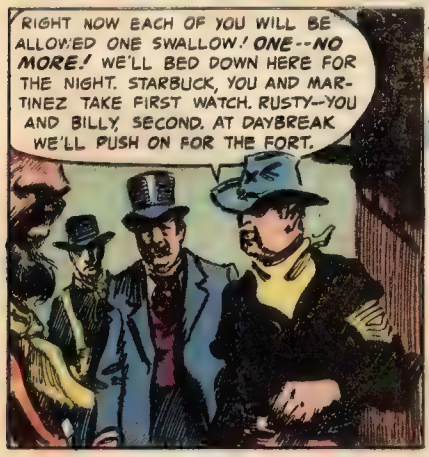
AFTER A HARD, TIRING JOURNEY THE LITTLE BAND FINALLY REACHES THE ABANDONED TRADING POST MENTIONED BY PROPHET. THE SEARCH FOR THE WELL BEGINS...

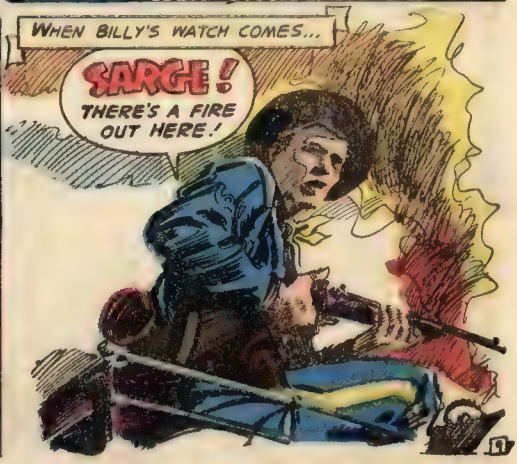
NO USE--DRYER'N' A BONE! NO TELLIN' WHEN THERE WAS WATER HERE LAST!
I KNEW IT! I KNEW THERE WASN'T NO WATER! JUST A WASTE OF TIME!

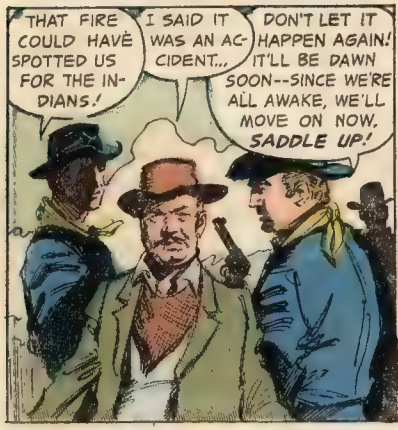


DIGGING UP THE REST OF THE ILLEGAL CARBINES, TRAINOR HAS THEM LOADED ON THE COACH. THEN...

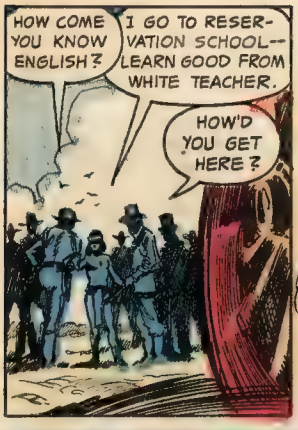


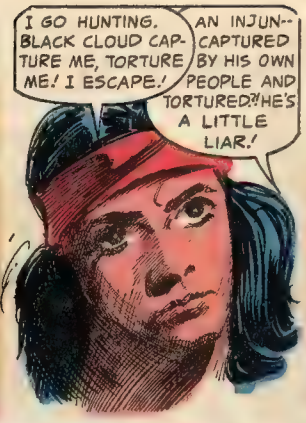


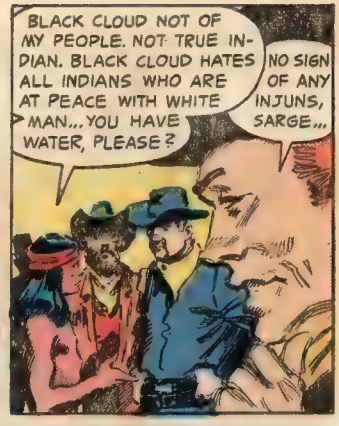


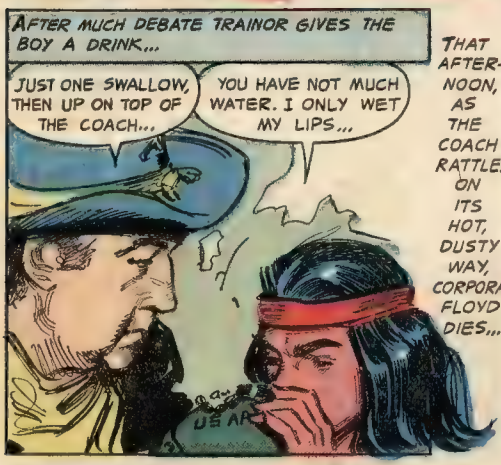


SOME HOURS LATER, AS THEY BEAT THEIR WAY ACROSS THE HOT DESERT, THE COACH DROPS INTO A CHUCK HOLE. AS THE MEN PULL IT OUT...



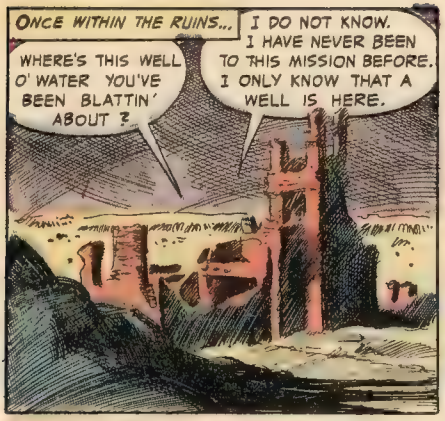


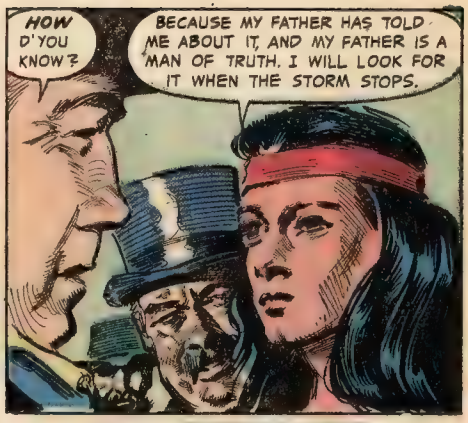




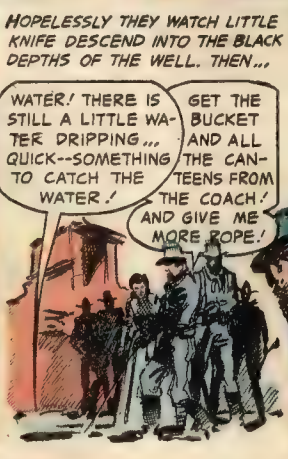
THAT AFTERNOON, AS THE COACH RATTLES ON ITS HOT, DUSTY WAY, CORPORAL FLOYD DIES...

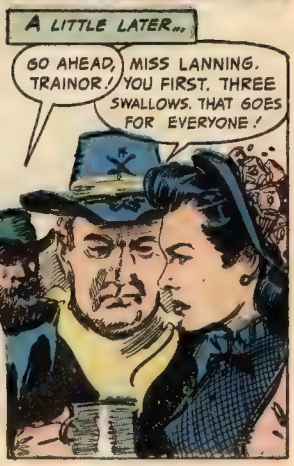
HOUR AFTER HOUR THEY RIDE ACROSS THE BURNING SANDS. A DRIVING DUST STORM ARISES! BUT, AT LAST...


ONCE WITHIN THE RUINS...
WHERE'S THIS WELL O' WATER YOU'VE BEEN BLATTIN' ABOUT ?
I DO NOT KNOW. I HAVE NEVER BEEN TO THIS MISSION BEFORE. I ONLY KNOW THAT A WELL IS HERE.

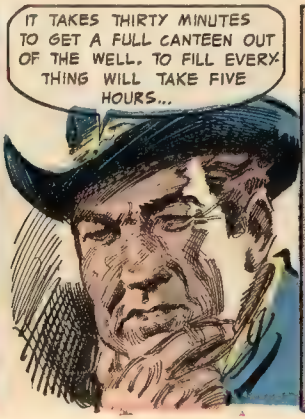

HOW D'YOU KNOW ?
BECAUSE MY FATHER HAS TOLD ME ABOUT IT, AND MY FATHER IS A MAN OF TRUTH. I WILL LOOK FOR IT WHEN THE STORM STOPS.

THE DUST STORM FINALLY ABATES. AND THE SEARCH BEGINS. WHEN THEY FIND THE WELL...
EMPTY!
GO DOWN, LITTLE KNIFE, AND TAKE A LOOK...

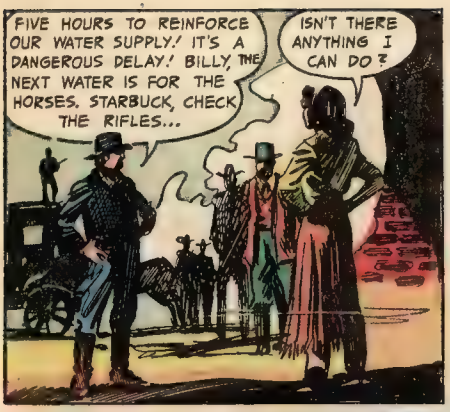

HOPELESSLY THEY WATCH LITTLE KNIFE DESCEND INTO THE BLACK DEPTHS OF THE WELL. THEN...
WATER! THERE IS STILL A LITTLE WATER DRIPPING... QUICK--SOMETHING TO CATCH THE WATER!
GET THE BUCKET AND ALL THE CANTEENS FROM THE COACH! AND GIVE ME MORE ROPE!

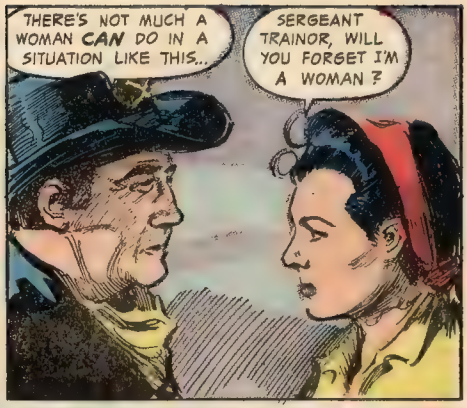

A LITTLE LATER...
GO AHEAD, TRAINOR!
MISS LANNING. YOU FIRST. THREE SWALLOWS. THAT GOES FOR EVERYONE!

AFTER ALL HAVE HAD THEIR DRINK, TRAINOR DESCENDS INTO THE WELL, WHERE ONLY LITTLE KNIFE REMAINS.
HERE--YOU DESERVE A BIGGER DRINK THAN ANYONE!

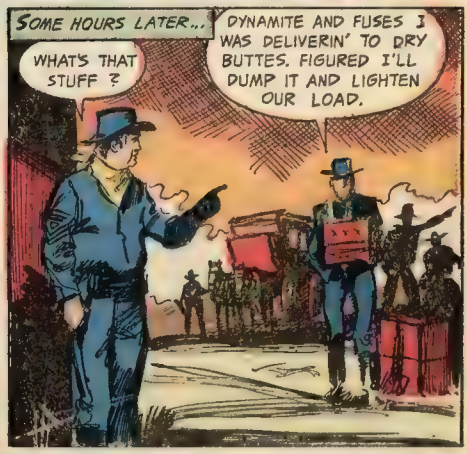

IT TAKES THIRTY MINUTES TO GET A FULL CANTEEN OUT OF THE WELL. TO FILL EVERY THING WILL TAKE FIVE HOURS...

AND, MEANWHILE, BEHIND THE SHADOW OF THE RUINS JULIA LANNING CHANGES INTO A MORE COMFORTABLE OUTFIT...

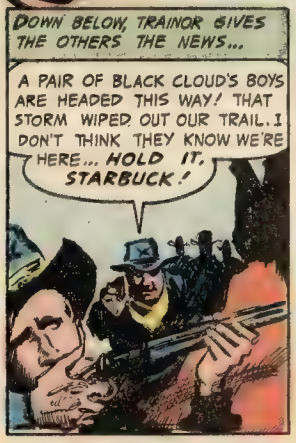

FIVE HOURS TO REINFORCE OUR WATER SUPPLY! IT'S A DANGEROUS DELAY! BILLY, THE NEXT WATER IS FOR THE HORSES. STARBUCK, CHECK THE RIFLES...
ISN'T THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO?


THERE'S NOT MUCH A WOMAN CAN DO IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS...
SERGEANT TRAINOR, WILL YOU FORGET I'M A WOMAN?

WELL--IT WON'T BE EASY, BUT I'LL TRY! ALL RIGHT, SOLDIER, IF IT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL ANY BETTER, YOU CAN GIVE BILLY A HAND WITH THAT WATER SUPPLY...


SOME HOURS LATER...
WHAT'S THAT STUFF?
DYNAMITE AND FUSES I WAS DELIVERIN' TO DRY BUTTES. FIGURED I'LL DUMP IT AND LIGHTEN OUR LOAD.

ON THE ROOF...
THERE'S A COUPLE OF BLACK CLOUD'S WARRIORS! STAY UP HERE--AND STAY LOW!


DOWN BELOW, TRAINOR GIVES THE OTHERS THE NEWS...
A PAIR OF BLACK CLOUD'S BOYS ARE HEADED THIS WAY! THAT STORM WIPED OUT OUR TRAIL. I DON'T THINK THEY KNOW WE'RE HERE... HOLD IT, STARBUCK!

I WANT THEM ALIVE! WE'VE GOT TO KNOW IF THEY'RE PART OF THE BAND! GET THE COACH AND HORSES OUT OF SIGHT! MISS LANNING, INSIDE! THE REST OF YOU COVER OUR TRACKS...

A FEW MINUTES LATER, AS THE TWO COMANCHES APPROACH THE WELL, A TAUT ROPE IS LIFTED ACROSS THEIR PATH...

TRAINOR DOES HIS BEST TO MAKE THEM TALK, WITHOUT RESULTS. THEN HE TRIES SOMETHING ELSE...

WANT IT BAD, DON'T YOU? C'MON--TALK! YOU CAN HAVE WATER IF YOU SPEAK UP--WHERE'S BLACK CLOUD?

HE HALF DAY AWAY--MANY WARRIORS-- THEY COME HERE!

OKAY... HERE'S YOUR DRINK... STARBUCK, TIE 'EM UP WHEN THEY'RE DONE...

WE HAVE NO WATER FOR TWO DAYS. THIS ONLY WATER HOLE. WE SCOUTS...

CALLING THE GROUP TOGETHER, TRAINOR MAKES PLANS...

THE WELL'S GONE DRY!

WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER, BECAUSE WE'RE LEAVING ANYWAY...

WITH BLACK CLOUD AND HIS INDIANS BEIN' WITHOUT WATER FOR TWO DAYS IT'S GOIN' TO BE A JOKE WHEN THEY FIND THERE AIN'T ANY...

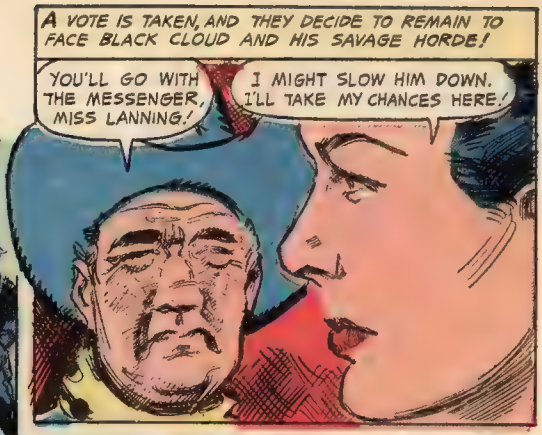
MAYBE WE OUGHT TO STAY AND SEE THEIR FACES... BLACK CLOUD WILL GO ON KILLING AS LONG AS HE'S FREE. WE'VE BEEN AFTER HIM FOR THREE YEARS. MAYBE WE COULD FINISH HIS CAREER!

HOW?

WE SEND A MESSENGER BACK TO THE FORT TO BRING HELP. THEN WE SEND THOSE TWO SCOUTS BACK TO TELL BLACK CLOUD THERE'S PLENTY OF WATER HERE. THEN WE DELAY THE INDIANS HERE UNTIL HELP COMES!

THAT'S A GOOD IDEA! LET'S STAY AN' FIGHT!

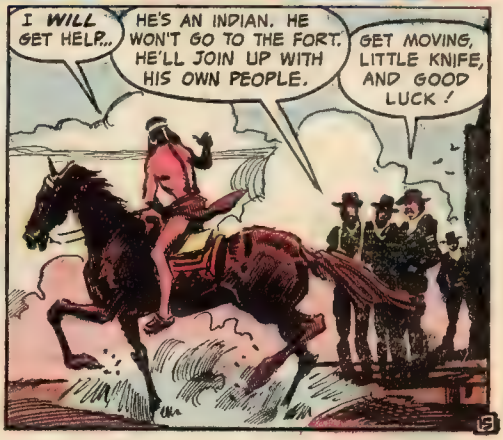
WELL, BECAUSE THERE'S SO LITTLE CHANCE OF US COMING OUT OF IT, I FEEL ALL OF YOU SHOULD DECIDE. BUT, WHATEVER THE DECISION, YOU'D BETTER MAKE IT QUICK!


A VOTE IS TAKEN, AND THEY DECIDE TO REMAIN TO FACE BLACK CLOUD AND HIS SAVAGE HORDE!
YOU'LL GO WITH THE MESSENGER, MISS LANNING!
I MIGHT SLOW HIM DOWN. I'LL TAKE MY CHANCES HERE!

THAT'S THE ANSWER I EXPECTED, MISS LANNING... JIM, UNTIE THE INDIANS!
RIGHT, MATT!

RELEASING THE INDIANS IS THE FIRST PART OF MATT TRAINOR'S PLAN OF OPERATION...
GO BACK TO BLACK CLOUD. TELL HIM WE KNOW HE NEEDS WATER. TELL HIM WE'LL MAKE A DEAL WITH HIM-- WATER FOR FOOD! SAVVY?

THEN HE PICKS A MESSENGER TO GO FOR THE CAVALRY...
YOU'RE NOT SENDIN' HIM, ARE YOU?
HE MIGHT GET THROUGH WHERE A WHITE MAN COULDN'T!


I WILL GET HELP...
HE'S AN INDIAN. HE WON'T GO TO THE FORT. HE'LL JOIN UP WITH HIS OWN PEOPLE.
GET MOVING, LITTLE KNIFE, AND GOOD LUCK!

WISH WE HAD A COUPLE OF GATLING GUNS.!
MAYBE WE'VE GOT SOMETHING AS GOOD! ...O'RATTIGAN, WHERE'S THAT DYNAMITE ?
THE DYNAMITE IS PLANTED IN A SEMI-CIRCLE OUTSIDE THE MISSION WALLS, AND A FUSE IS RUN BEHIND THE WALL. THEN TRAINOR CALLS THE GROUP TOGETHER...
NO ONE IS TO TOUCH THIS FUSE! IT'LL BE LIGHTED ONLY AS A LAST RESORT-- UNDERSTAND ?.!
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO FIGHT WITH, SERGEANT-- MY FISTS ?
DYNAMITE
YOU'LL HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE WITH ALL OF US--NOW GET TO YOUR POSTS, STAND READY-- AND WAIT !
THE WAIT IS SHORT.! THAT NIGHT BLACK CLOUD AND HIS BAND ATTACK--ONLY TO BE MET WITH A WITHERING FIRE!
YAHEOW !!
EEYAH !!
BLAM!
CRACK!
UNABLE TO STAND THE DEADLY FIRE FROM THE MISSION, THEY SUDDENLY TURN AND RUN...
THEY'RE ON THE RUN.!
I'VE GOT A HUNCH THAT'LL BE ALL FOR TONIGHT.!

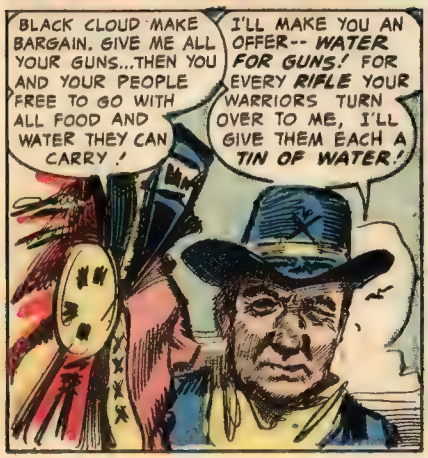
EVERYBODY ALL RIGHT? WHERE'S MARTINEZ?
HE'S DEAD, MATT...

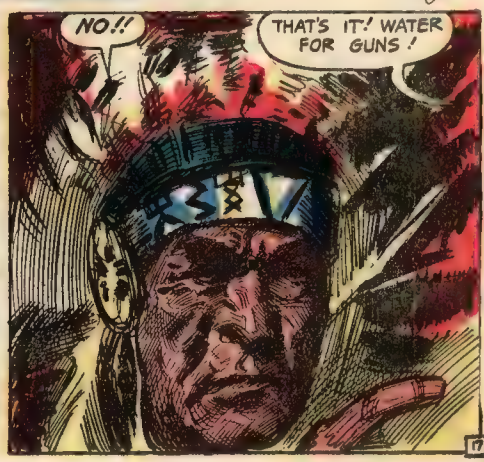
THE NEXT MORNING...
MEANT TO COMPLIMENT YOU ON THE WAY YOU HANDLED THAT RIFLE LAST NIGHT!
I GREW UP ON A FARM WITH A BUNCH OF BROTHERS AS ROUGH AS YOU ARE. THERE WERE ALWAYS GUNS AROUND. I SHOT MY FIRST WILD TURKEY WHEN I WAS TEN.

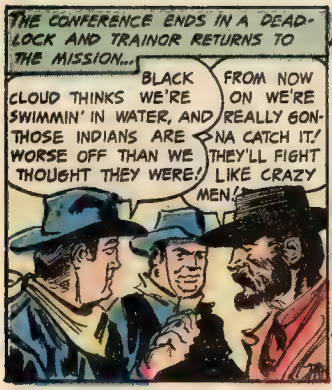
AND YOUR FIRST WILD INDIAN WHEN YOU WERE--NEVER MIND! YOU'VE GOT COURAGE!
BUT I HAVEN'T! I'M SICK WITH FRIGHT --SCARED TO DEATH--EVERY SECOND!

LOOK AROUND--HOW DO YOU THINK WE FEEL?
HEY, SARGE! I THINK I SAW SOMETHIN' WHITE OUT THERE! LOOKS LIKE A FLAG OF TRUCE!

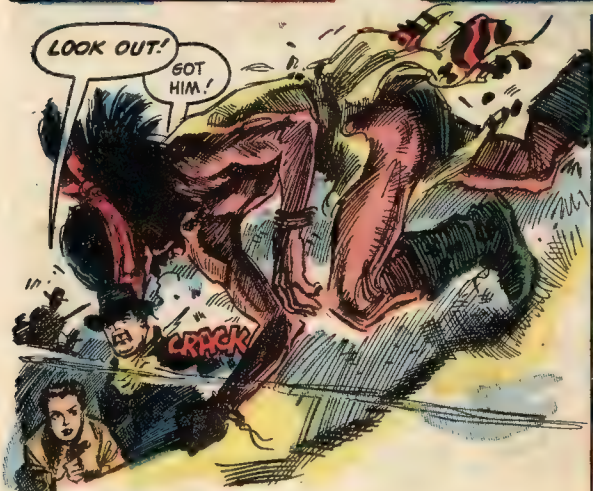
MINUTES LATER BLACK CLOUD AND SGT. TRAINOR FACE EACH OTHER...
I COME TO MAKE PEACE TALK...I AM BLACK CLOUD--GREATEST OF ALL COMANCHES--HIS WARRIORS ARE MANY!
WHEN YOU'RE THROUGH PATTIN' YOURSELF ON THE BACK, GET DOWN TO CASES. WHAT'S THE DEAL?

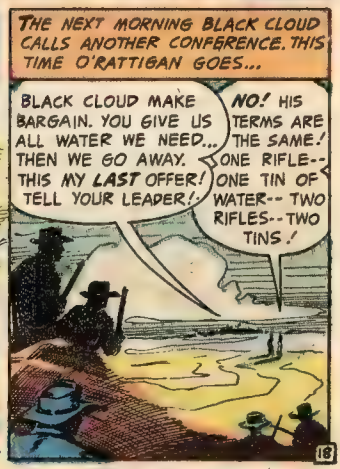

BLACK CLOUD MAKE BARGAIN. GIVE ME ALL YOUR GUNS...THEN YOU AND YOUR PEOPLE FREE TO GO WITH ALL FOOD AND WATER THEY CAN CARRY!
I'LL MAKE YOU AN OFFER-- WATER FOR GUNS! FOR EVERY RIFLE YOUR WARRIORS TURN OVER TO ME, I'LL GIVE THEM EACH A TIN OF WATER!


NO!!
THAT'S IT! WATER FOR GUNS!

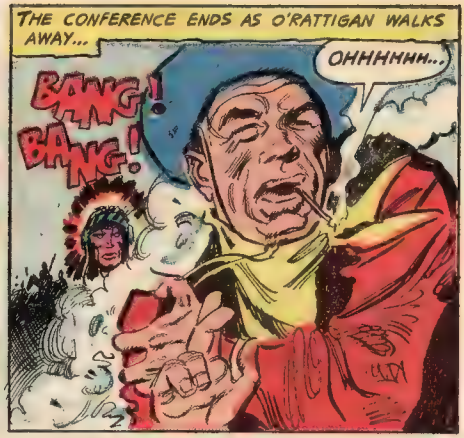


PROPHET IS RIGHT. A LITTLE LATER, A NEW ATTACK IS LAUNCHED ON THE EMBATTLED GROUP IN THE MISSION...

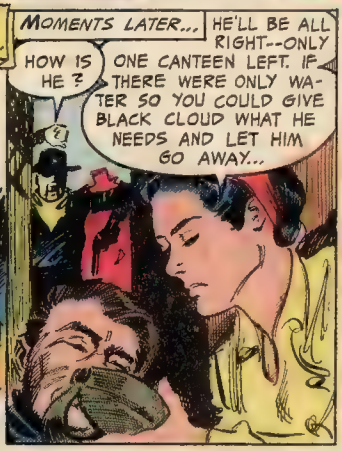




NO!!
...IF YOU DON'T LIKE THOSE TERMS AND YOU STILL WANT WATER--COME AND TAKE IT!


THE CONFERENCE ENDS AS O'RATTIGAN WALKS AWAY...
BANG! BANG!
OHHHHHH...

AS HE LIES HELPLESS UNDER FIRE, RUSTY LEAPS THE WALL...
HOLD ON--I'M COMING, O'RATTIGAN!

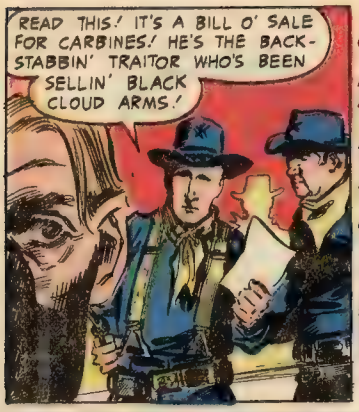

MOMENTS LATER...
HOW IS HE?
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT--ONLY ONE CANTEEN LEFT. IF THERE WERE ONLY WATER SO YOU COULD GIVE BLACK CLOUD WHAT HE NEEDS AND LET HIM GO AWAY...

EVEN WITH WATER, HE WOULDN'T GO. WE TOOK ON THE JOB OF KEEPING HIM HERE! NOW WE CAN'T GO...MAYBE I WAS WRONG IN ASKING EVERYONE TO TAKE THE STAND WE HAVE. I DON'T KNOW...
YOU WEREN'T WRONG...

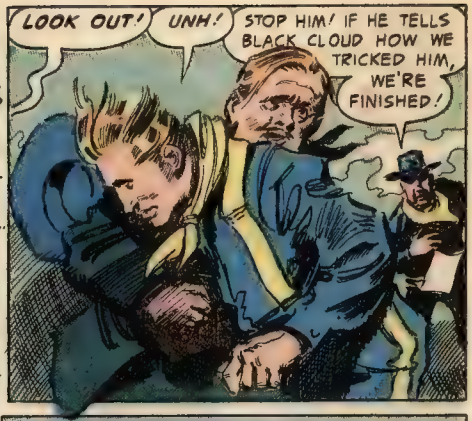
ANOTHER SKIRMISH FOLLOWS, AND KINNAIRD IS HURT...
OHH--I DON'T NEED YOUR HELP!
OH, YES YOU DO!... I GOT ORDERS TO KEEP YOU SAFE!

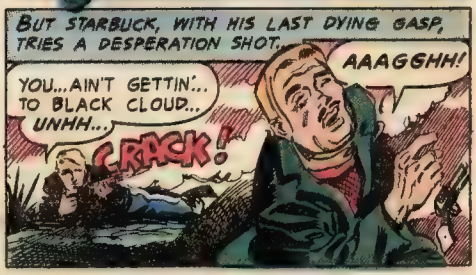
MAKIN' ALL THAT SQUAWK OVER A SCRATCH! YELLOW--THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE, YELLOW!--SAY, WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S MINE! GIVE IT TO ME!—

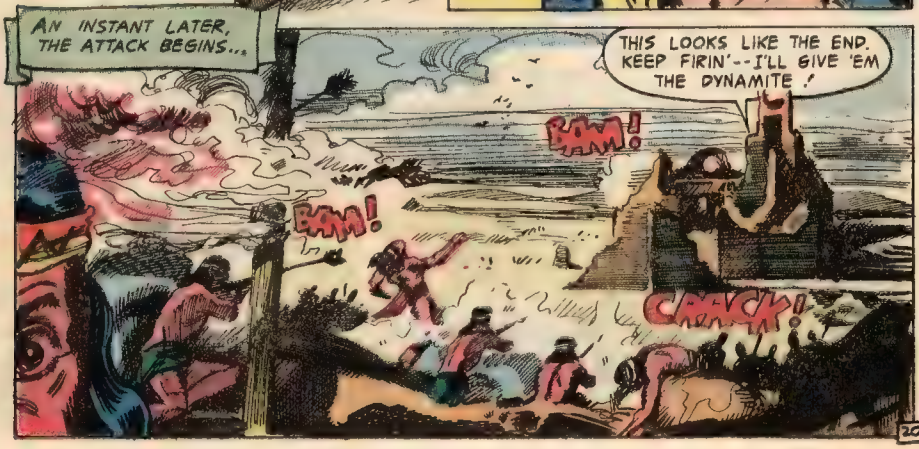
CURIOUSLY, STARBUCK LOOKS AT THE LETTER, AND...
.....YOU CHEAP, MURDERIN' SNAKE! SARGE! SARGE, C'MERE!

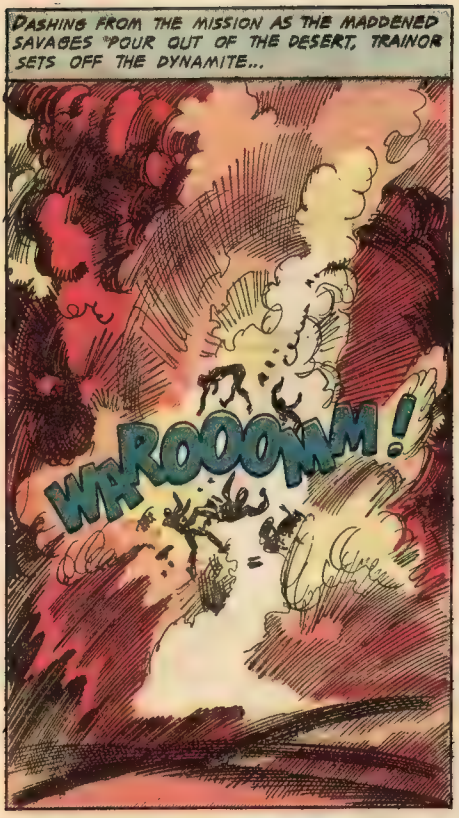


CAUGHT RED-HANDED, KINNAIRD MAKES A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE...

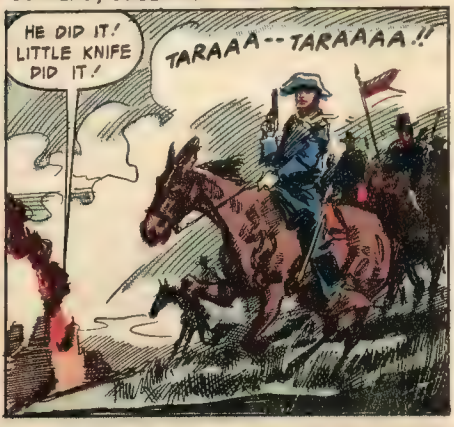






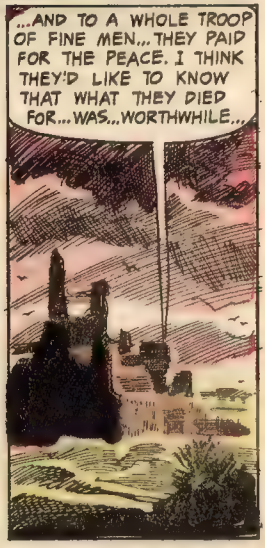

DASHING FROM THE MISSION AS THE MADDENED SAVAGES POUR OUT OF THE DESERT, TRAINOR SETS OFF THE DYNAMITE...
WHROOOMM!

WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARS...
WE STOPPED 'EM!


SUDDENLY, SWEEPING OVER THE RISE...
HE DID IT! LITTLE KNIFE DID IT!
TARAAA--TARAAAA!!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...
AT EASE.
SGT. TRAINOR, "C" TROOP, SIR!
WHAT YOU'VE DONE SHOULD ELIMINATE THE MENACE TO THIS TERRITORY. IT WAS A WILD, DESPERATE PLAN, BUT IT WORKED!... I WISH TO COMMEND YOU, SGT....

THANK YOU, SIR--BUT THE CREDIT GOES TO A LOT OF PEOPLE...SOME RIGHT IN OUR OWN FAMILY...PROPHET SATTERLEE...O'RATTIGAN...TROOPER CREEL...LITTLE KNIFE...


...AND TO A WHOLE TROOP OF FINE MEN...THEY PAID FOR THE PEACE. I THINK THEY'D LIKE TO KNOW THAT WHAT THEY DIED FOR...WAS...WORTHWHILE...

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HE WAS BORN IN THE COTTON COUNTRY OF ALABAMA. BUT HE GREW TO BE A STRONG MAN WHO WAS SMART ENOUGH TO UTILIZE HIS POWERFUL BODY IN THE RIGHT WAY. HE PACKED DYNAMITE IN BOTH FISTS, AND WHEN HE PUT ON BOXING GLOVES AND ENTERED THE RING, THAT DYNAMITE EXPLODED AND CARRIED HIM ALL THE WAY TO THE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE WORLD! HIS NAME IS JOE LOUIS--THE BROWN BOMBER!

Louis Ravielli

JOE LOUIS BARROW WAS BORN ON MAY 13, 1914. WHEN HIS FAMILY MOVED TO DETROIT, HE WAS TEN YEARS OLD. AT TWELVE, HE GOT A JOB AFTER SCHOOL HOURS WORKING ON AN ICE WAGON...

THERE GOES THAT NICE BARROW BOY--HELPING HIS MOTHER AGAIN!

HE'S SUCH A SHY LAD, TOO!

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AT FOURTEEN, HE ENTERED A TRADE SCHOOL TO LEARN CABINET-MAKING. JOE ALWAYS LIKED TO DO THINGS WITH HIS HANDS, AND HE WOULD ALWAYS HELP HIS MOTHER ABOUT THE HOUSE...

ANYTHING ELSE, MOM?

NO, SON! GO OUT AND PLAY! YOU'VE DONE MORE THAN YOUR SHARE FOR THE DAY!

IT WAS QUITE BY ACCIDENT THAT JOE BECAME INVOLVED IN BOXING. ONE OF HIS PALS, A GOOD AMATEUR FIGHTER, ASKED JOE TO PUT ON GLOVES WITH HIM

UGH! WOW! YOU HAVE QUITE A SOCK!

SMACK

MAYBE SO... BUT I FALL ALL OVER MYSELF!

AFTER A FEW LESSONS, JOE WAS COAXED TO TRY HIS LUCK IN COMPETITION. HE WAS SIXTEEN AT THE TIME HE ENTERED HIS FIRST AMATEUR TOURNAMENT...

YOUR PAL ISN'T DOING TOO GOOD!

GIVE HIM TIME. JOE WILL BE THE BEST THERE IS!

SOON HE BECAME AN OUTSTANDING AMATEUR PERFORMER. IN 1933 HE HIT THE FINALS OF THE LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CLASS, AND THE FOLLOWING YEAR WON THE NATIONAL A.A.U. 175 LB. DIVISION IN ST. LOUIS!

JOE DECIDED THE TIME WAS RIPE FOR HIM TO TURN PRO. HE WANTED HIS GOOD FRIEND JOHN ROXBOROUGH TO BECOME HIS MANAGER.

BUT, JOE... I'M NOT A PROFESSIONAL MANAGER. THERE'S A LOT I DON'T KNOW!

SAME HERE... SO LET'S BOTH LEARN TOGETHER.

THE FIRST THING ROXBOROUGH DID WAS TO HIRE JACK BLACKBURN TO TRAIN LOUIS. HE POLISHED JOE LOUIS INTO A MACHINE OF STRIKING FURY! 1934 SAW JOE KO TEN OF TWELVE OPPONENTS AND WIN THE DECISION FROM THE OTHER TWO...

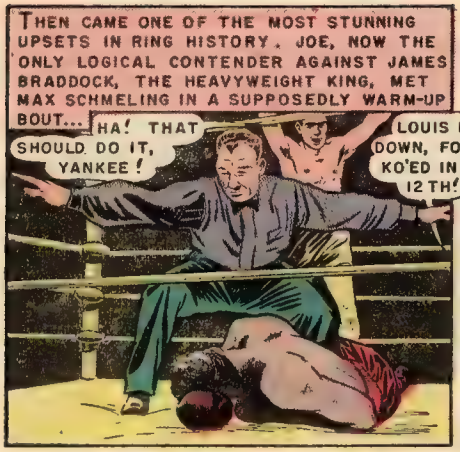
BY 1935, LOUIS HAD BECOME SUCH A TERRIFIC FIGHTER THAT THE BEST COULD NOT LAST MORE THAN TEN ROUNDS WITH HIM. PRIMO CARNERA, ONCE HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP OF THE WORLD, FOUND THAT OUT ON JULY 25...

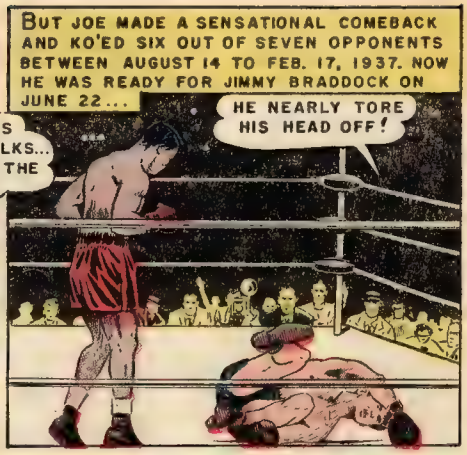
STOP THE FIGHT!

WOW! JOE HAS KO'ED HIM IN THE 6TH!

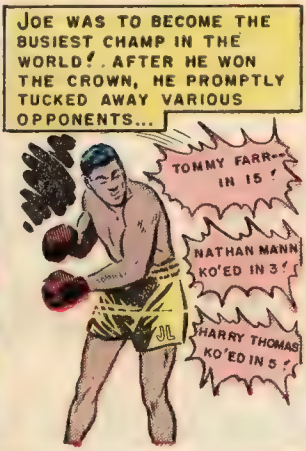
JOE WAS NOW MATCHED WITH THE MAGNIFICENT MAX BAER ON SEPT. 24, 1935. BAER HAD NEVER BEEN KO'ED BY ANYONE—UNTIL HE MET LOUIS!

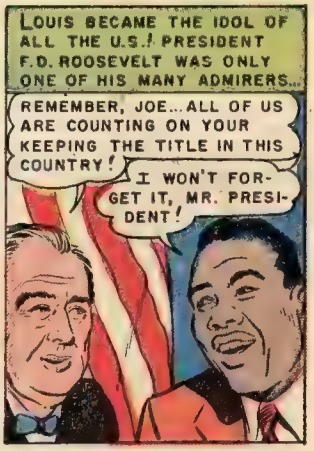
THE SENSATIONAL BROWN BOMBER HAS DONE IT AGAIN IN THE 4TH!

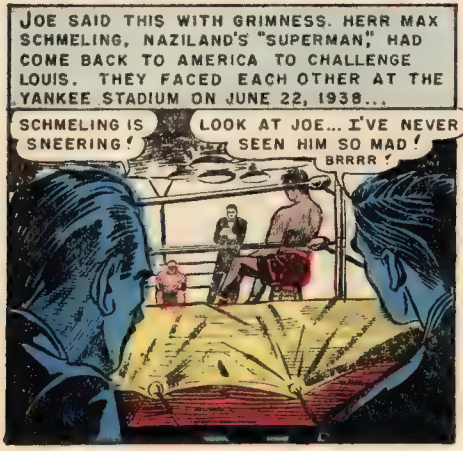

THEN CAME ONE OF THE MOST STUNNING UPSETS IN RING HISTORY. JOE, NOW THE ONLY LOGICAL CONTENDER AGAINST JAMES BRADDOCK, THE HEAVYWEIGHT KING, MET MAX SCHMELING IN A SUPPOSEDLY WARM-UP BOUT...
HA! THAT SHOULD DO IT, YANKEE!
LOUIS IS DOWN, FOLKS... KO'ED IN THE 12TH!

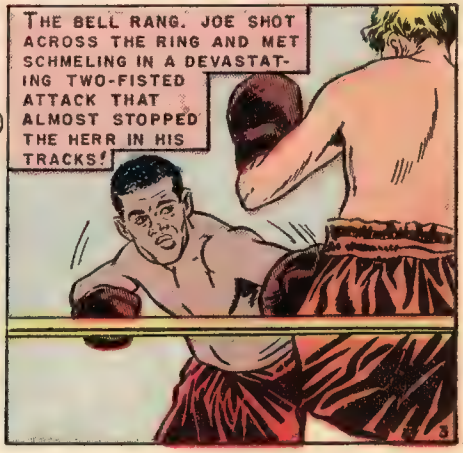

BUT JOE MADE A SENSATIONAL COMEBACK AND KO'ED SIX OUT OF SEVEN OPPONENTS BETWEEN AUGUST 14 TO FEB. 17, 1937. NOW HE WAS READY FOR JIMMY BRADDOCK ON JUNE 22...
HE NEARLY TORE HIS HEAD OFF!

THE NEW HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD... JOE LOUIS!


JOE WAS TO BECOME THE BUSIEST CHAMP IN THE WORLD! AFTER HE WON THE CROWN, HE PROMPTLY TUCKED AWAY VARIOUS OPPONENTS...
TOMMY FARR-- IN 15!
NATHAN MANN KO'ED IN 3!
HARRY THOMAS KO'ED IN 5!


LOUIS BECAME THE IDOL OF ALL THE U.S.! PRESIDENT F.D. ROOSEVELT WAS ONLY ONE OF HIS MANY ADMIRERS...
REMEMBER, JOE... ALL OF US ARE COUNTING ON YOUR KEEPING THE TITLE IN THIS COUNTRY!
I WON'T FORGET IT, MR. PRESIDENT!


JOE SAID THIS WITH GRIMNESS. HERR MAX SCHMELING, NAZILAND'S "SUPERMAN," HAD COME BACK TO AMERICA TO CHALLENGE LOUIS. THEY FACED EACH OTHER AT THE YANKEE STADIUM ON JUNE 22, 1938...
SCHMELING IS SNEERING!
LOOK AT JOE... I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO MAD!
BRRRR!


THE BELL RANG. JOE SHOT ACROSS THE RING AND MET SCHMELING IN A DEVASTATING TWO-FISTED ATTACK THAT ALMOST STOPPED THE HERR IN HIS TRACKS!

LOUIS SMASHED THE GERMAN WITH A LEFT IN THE PIT OF THE STOMACH! AND THEN CRASHED IN A RIGHT! IN TWO MINUTES AND FOUR SECONDS OF THE FIRST ROUND, SCHMELING WAS HANGING ON THE ROPES, HELPLESS!

UGHHHH! OHHH...

SMACK BAM

MAX SCHMELING WENT TO THE HOSPITAL WITH A BROKEN BONE IN HIS BACK. AFTER THIS BOUT, JOE TOOK ON TONY GALENTO AND ARTURO GODOY, KO'ING THEM IN FOUR AND EIGHT ROUNDS, RESPECTIVELY...

IN 1941 JOE PUT HIS TITLE ON THE LINE NINE TIMES! ON JUNE 18, HE MET BILLY CONN, BRILLIANT LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP...

CONN IS BOXING BEAUTIFULLY! HE'S CARRYING THE FIGHT TO LOUIS!

BUT IN THE 13TH ROUND, JOE DROVE HIS LEFT INTO CONN'S MIDRIFF AND BROUGHT UP HIS RIGHT TO THE JAW. THE CHALLENGER PITCHED FORWARD ON THE CANVAS--KO'ED!

WITH THE COMING OF 1942, JOE LOUIS, WITH SOME MILLIONS OF OTHER AMERICAN BOYS, WAS IN THE ARMY...

HELLO, JOE! ARE YOU GOING TO DO ANY MORE FIGHTING?

ONLY IF THE ARMY WANTS ME TO, DOC!

ARMY PHYSICAL

AND THE ARMY REALLY WANTED HIM TO DO IT! ON JAN. 9, 1942, HE MET BUDDY BAER AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, WITH JOE'S SHARE BEING DONATED TO NAVY RELIEF! HE KO'ED BAER IN ONE ROUND!

OOOFF!

SMACK!

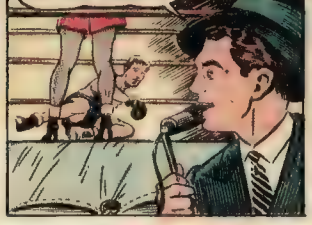
ON MARCH 27, 1942, JOE MET ABE SIMON AND DISPOSED OF HIM IN THE SIXTH ROUND, THIS TIME DONATING HIS PURSE TO ARMY RELIEF...

THAT GUY IS A GREAT CHAMPION!

YOU'RE SO RIGHT, MISTER!

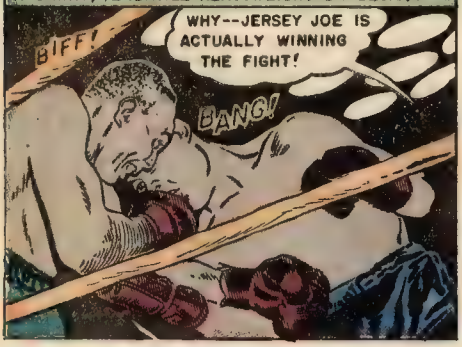
FROM 1942 TO 1946, JOE GAVE A NUMBER OF EXHIBITIONS IN SERVICE. PVT. JOE LOUIS BECAME SGT. JOE LOUIS--A GOOD SOLDIER!

WHEN JOE WAS HONORABLY DISCHARGED FROM THE ARMY, HE WAS SIGNED TO FIGHT BILLY CONN. JOE WAS NOW 32 YEARS OLD. WOULD HIS AGE AND INACTIVITY HANDICAP HIM AGAINST BILLY CONN? ON JUNE 19, 1946 IN THE 8TH ROUND...



JOE HAD JUST ABOUT ELIMINATED ALL THE MAJOR CONTENDERS FOR HIS TITLE. BUT TAMI MAURIELLO LOOKED LIKE GOOD COMPETITION FOR LOUIS, SO ON SEPT. 18, 1946...

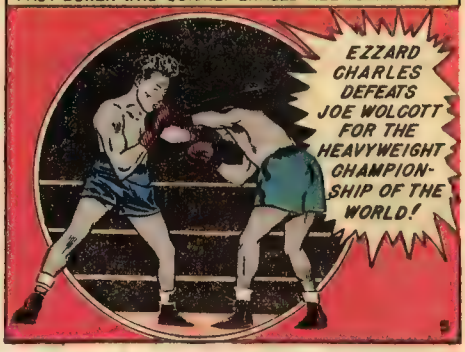
AFTER THIS BOUT, JOE WENT ON MANY TOURS AND EXHIBITIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD. ON THE VERGE OF RETIRING, LOUIS CHANGED HIS MIND AND ACCEPTED A BOUT WITH JERSEY JOE WALCOTT, A CANNY, VERSATILE HEAVYWEIGHT ON DEC. 5, 1947.



JOE MANAGED TO HOLD ON TO HIS TITLE, BUT MANY FELT THAT WALCOTT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DECLARED CHAMPION. JOE WAS SO DISGUSTED WITH HIMSELF THAT HE REQUESTED A RETURN BOUT. AND ON JUNE 25, 1948...

JOE WAS STILL CHAMPION OF THE WORLD. AS HE LEFT THE RING, HE COULD HEAR THE PLEASANT THUNDER OF CHEERS!

JOE SINCERELY INTENDED TO RETIRE AND SAID SO. THUS, ELIMINATION BOUTS WERE HELD FOR THE TITLE. AND AMONG THE NEW HEAVYWEIGHTS WAS EZZARD CHARLES, A SLASHING, LIGHTNING-FAST BOXER WHO QUICKLY ERASED ALL COMPETITION!



BUT SO GREAT HAD BEEN JOE'S REIGN THAT EZZARD ONLY HAD N.B.A. RECOGNITION. LOUIS HAD TO COME OUT OF RETIREMENT TO FIGHT THE NEW CHAMPION. THEY MET ON SEPT. 27, 1950...

LOUIS SHUFFLES FORWARD...CHARLES SLASHES RIGHT, LEFT, RIGHT...!

COME ON, JOE! GET GOIN'!

SAVE YOUR BREATH, MAC! LOUIS AIN'T GOT THE ZIP ANYMORE!

...

AND SO IT WAS THAT AFTER FIFTEEN WEARY ROUNDS, JOE LOUIS, THE CHAMPION WHO HAD NEVER BEEN BEATEN, WAS GIVEN A LOSING DECISION. WITH THIS FIGHT, THE INDOMINABLE EZZARD CHARLES ACQUIRED UNIVERSAL RECOGNITION AS...

...HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMP OF THE WORLD!

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WAS STUNNED! HERE WAS THEIR GREAT CHAMP ON THE WAY DOWN. BUT THEY HADN'T RECKONED ON LOUIS' FIGHTING SPIRIT! HE BEGAN A SERIES OF COMEBACK FIGHTS...*WON ALL* OF THEM!

THEN ON JUNE, 1951, JOE MAULED LEE SAVOLD, THE FOREMOST CHALLENGER TO THE HEAVYWEIGHT CROWN...

THEN HE DEFEATED BRION AND BIVENS. BUT WHEN HE MET YOUNG, RISING ROCKY MARCIANO, HIS AGE CAUGHT UP WITH HIM, AND AMERICA'S GREATEST CHAMPION WENT DOWN IN DEFEAT!

JOE...

JOE...*JOE!* WE WANT *JOE!*

JOE, YOU CAN COME BACK AGAIN!

BUT THIS TIME JOE LOUIS RETIRED FOR GOOD. HE WILL NEVER FIGHT AGAIN, BUT TIME WILL NOT ERASE THE ESTEEM THE WORLD HAS FOR THIS INSPIRING PERSONALITY! BECAUSE HE IS, ABOVE ALL, A CREDIT TO HIS RACE... *THE HUMAN RACE!*

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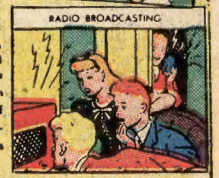

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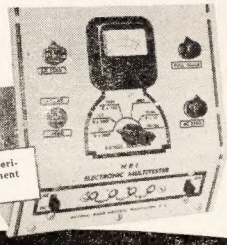

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